

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN TRUDI SCHMIDT**, on April 4, 2007 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 317-A Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Trudi Schmidt, Chairman (D)  
Sen. Keith Bales (R)  
Sen. Gregory D. Barkus (R)  
Sen. John Brueggeman (R)  
Sen. John Cobb (R)  
Sen. Mike Cooney (D)  
Sen. Steven Gallus (D)  
Sen. Ken (Kim) Hansen (D)  
Sen. Bob Hawks (D)  
Sen. Rick Laible (R)  
Sen. Lane L. Larson (D)  
Sen. Dave Lewis (R)  
Sen. Greg Lind (D)  
Sen. Corey Stapleton (R)  
Sen. Bill Tash (R)  
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)  
Sen. David E. Wanzienried (D)  
Sen. Dan Weinberg (D)  
Sen. Carol Williams (D)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary  
Taryn Purdy, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 616, 3/31/2007; HB 395,  
3/31/2007; HB 592, 3/31/2007; HB  
407, 3/31/2007; HB 577, 3/31/2007;  
HB 627, 3/31/2007; HB 114,  
3/31/2007

Executive Action: None.

00:00:00

**HEARING ON HB 616**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:00:52 **REP. BILL MCCHESENEY (D), HD 40**, opened the hearing on  
**HB 616**, Allow parimutuel wagering on fantasy sports  
leagues.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:02:53 Sen. Kim Gillan

**EXHIBIT(fcs72a01)**

00:03:17 Rich Miller, Gaming Industry Association

00:03:40 Ronda Wiggers, Montana Coin Machine Operators

**Opponents' Testimony:**

**Informational Testimony:**

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:04:08 Sen. Cobb to Rep. McChesney

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:05:21 Rep. McChesney

**HEARING ON HB 395**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:05:59 **REP. WILLIAM JONES (R), HD 9**, opened the hearing on **HB  
395**, Fund dental school education.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:08:54 Mary McCue, Montana Dental Association

[EXHIBIT\(fcs72a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs72a03\)](#)

00:17:47 Dan O'Neill, Montana Dental Association

00:17:55 Steve Yeakel, Montana Council for Maternal and Child  
Health

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:19:12 Cathy Conover, Montana University System

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:22:39 Sen. Hawks to Mary McCue

00:27:44 Sen. Laible to Mary McCue

00:31:10 Sen. Tash to Mary McCue

00:33:11 Sen. Barkus to Mary McCue

00:35:45 Sen. Barkus to Rep. Jones

00:43:59 Sen. Hawks

00:48:02 Sen. Laible to Cathy Conover

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:49:45 Rep. Jones

**HEARING ON HB 592**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:52:53 **REP. BILL WILSON (D)**, HD 22, opened the hearing on **HB 592**, Highway signs for veteran's memorial.

[EXHIBIT\(fcs72a04\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:54:36 Sam Pappas, Chair, Montana Veterans' Memorial

**EXHIBIT (fcs72a05)**

00:59:03 Dan Antonietti, Veterans of Foreign Wars

00:59:37 Colonel Jim Jacobsen, retired, Montana American Legion

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:00:27 Sen. Barkus to John Blacker, Department of  
Transportation

01:02:37 Sen. Schmidt to John Blacker

01:03:30 Sen. Schmidt to Rep. Wilson

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:04:00 Rep. Wilson

*Sen. Tropila will carry the bill in the Senate*

**HEARING ON HB 407**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:04:40 **REP. CHAS VINCENT (R), HD 2**, opened the hearing on **HB 407**, Allocate funds to Libby asbestos medical plan.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:07:23 Rep. Ralph Heinert, HD 1

01:10:41 Aubyn Curtiss, SD 1

01:12:17 Leroy Tom, Libby, LAMP, CARD, Citizens Advisory Group  
(CAG)

01:15:29 Tanis Hernandez, Social Worker, Libby

01:20:26 Brad Black, physician, Lincoln County Health Officer

01:25:05 Gerald Muller, Missoula

01:28:35 Jim Ahrens, Montana Hospital Association

01:30:03 Betty Challinor, Asbestos Related Disease Network (ARD  
NET)

**EXHIBIT(fcs72a06)**

01:32:53 Jan Sanderson, Libby

01:34:06 Don Judge, representing himself

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:**

01:37:26 Jane Smilie, Department of Public Health and Human  
Services (DPHHS)

**EXHIBIT(fcs72a07)**

**EXHIBIT(fcs72a08)**

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:41:36 Sen. Laible to Jane Smilie

01:43:01 Sen. Laible to Dr. Black

01:46:09 Sen. Lewis to Jane Smilie

01:47:02 Denise Pizzini, Legal Counsel, DPHHS

01:49:13 Sen. Lewis to Denise Pizzini

01:49:46 Sen. Hawks to Denise Pizzini

01:54:28 Sen. Schmidt to Leroy Thom

01:59:29 Sen. Bales to Leroy Thom

02:01:46 Sen. Hawks to Dr. Black

02:06:01 Sen. Schmidt to Rep. Heinert

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:08:10 Rep. Vincent

02:09:15 Recess

02:33:08 Reconvene

**HEARING ON HB 577**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

02:33:24 **REP. MARY CAFERRO (D)**, HD 80, opened the hearing on **HB 577**, Children's health care act.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

02:34:34 Terry Kendrick, for Olivia Riutta, Working for Equity and Economic Liberation (WEEL)

**EXHIBIT(fcs72a09)**

02:36:00 Jennifer Hill-Hart, Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

02:36:19 Sami Butler, Intermountain Children's Home

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:**

02:37:09 Wayne Preshinger, DPHHS

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

02:38:59 Sen. Lind to Wayne Preshinger

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:39:11 Rep. Caferro

**EXHIBIT(fcs72a10)**

02:43:22 Sen. Schmidt

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL DIVISION PRESENTATION**

02:47:56 Clayton Schenck, Legislative Fiscal Analyst,  
Legislative Fiscal Division

**EXHIBIT(fcs72a11)**

02:49:42 Terry Johnson, Principal Fiscal Analyst, Legislative  
Fiscal Division

**EXHIBIT (fcs72a12)**

02:57:05 Sen. Tropila to Terry Johnson  
02:58:29 Sen. Cobb to Terry Johnson  
02:58:56 Sen. Hawks to Terry Johnson  
02:59:35 Sen. Lewis to Terry Johnson  
03:08:17 Sen. Hawks to Terry Johnson  
03:08:55 Sen. Cobb to Terry Johnson  
03:10:50 Sen. Wanzenried to Terry Johnson  
03:11:15 Sen. Tropila to Terry Johnson  
03:11:31 Sen. Hawks to Terry Johnson  
03:13:04 Sen. Weinberg to Terry Johnson  
03:14:52 Sen. Laible to Terry Johnson

**HEARING ON HB 627**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

03:19:46 **REP. EDWARD HILBERT (R), HD 38**, opened the hearing on  
**HB 627**, Pave road to Dawson county correctional  
facility.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None.

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

03:23:02 Sen. Laible to Rep. Hilbert  
03:23:11 Sen. Hawks to Rep. Hilbert  
03:24:06 Sen. Lind to Rep. Hilbert

03:25:54 Sen. Lewis to Rep. Hilbert

03:26:55 Sen. Lewis to Taryn Purdy

03:27:25 Rep. Hilbert

03:28:17 Sen. Wanzenried to Rep. Hilbert

**Closing by Sponsor:**

03:29:58 Rep. Hilbert

**HEARING ON HB 114**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

03:31:25 **REP. ALAN OLSON (R), HD 45**, opened the hearing on **HB 114**, Establish Montana electrical transmission and pipeline authority.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

03:34:44 Leo Berry, Great Northern Power Development

**Opponents' Testimony:**

03:37:13 Patrick Judge, Montana Environmental Information Center

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

03:41:13 Sen. Lind to Rep. Olson

03:44:39 Recess



**RECESSED**

Recessed: 12:00 P.M.

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SEN. TRUDI SCHMIDT, Chairman

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PRUDENCE GILDROY, Secretary

TS/pg

Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([fcs72aad.pdf](#))**